

(12) **UK Patent Application** (19) **GB** (11) **2 331 915** (13) **A**

(43) Date of A Publication 09.06.1999

(21) Application No 9808269.6

(22) Date of Filing 21.04.1998

(30) Priority Data
(31) 9725166

(32) 27.11.1997

(33) GB

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(51) INT CL⁶
A41D 13/08 13/10 19/01

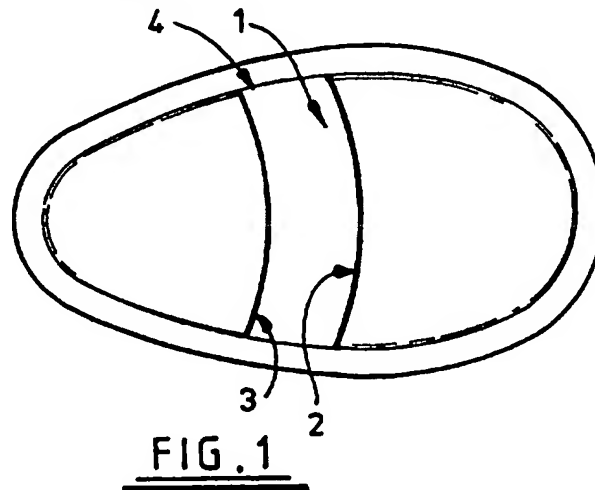
(52) UK CL (Edition Q)
A3V V1A1C2 V1A1X
U1S S1069 S1070 S1725 S1727 S1739 S1787 S1788

(56) Documents Cited
GB 2226488 A GB 2114870 A GB 1450683 A
GB 1088654 A GB 0427865 A GB 0292339 A
US 4938515 A US 3982298 A

(58) Field of Search
UK CL (Edition P) A3V
INT CL⁶ A41D 13/08 13/10 19/00 19/01
Online: WPI

(54) Abstract Title
Mitts for handling articles

(57) A mitt comprises two pockets: a larger one to receive three or four fingers and a smaller one to receive the thumb of the same hand. It may be made of cloth, suitably quilted, polythene or paper and it may be used to handle articles in ovens or microwave ovens, to carry hot crockery or for hygiene in food shops or the like.



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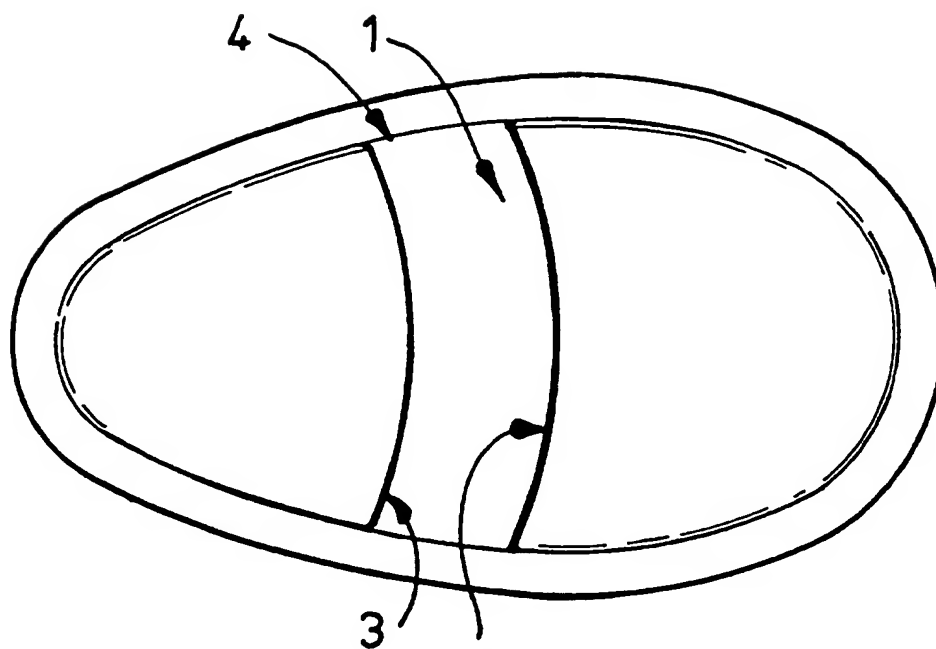


FIG. 1

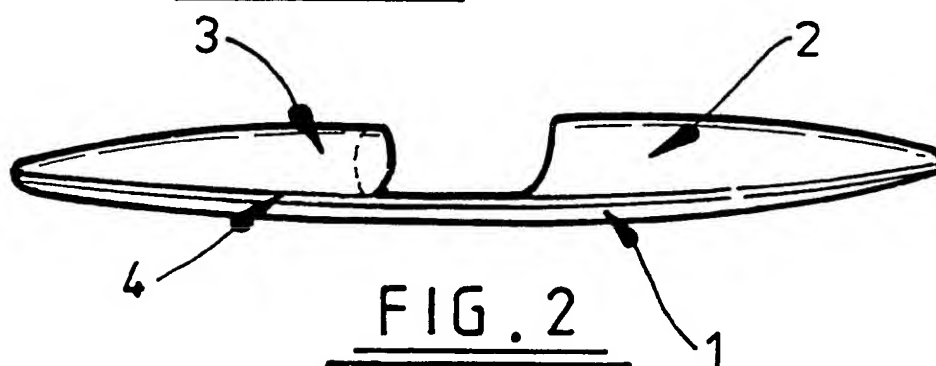


FIG. 2

2-2



FIG. 3a

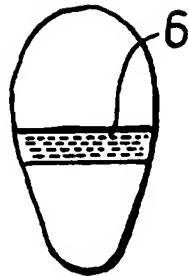


FIG. 3b



FIG. 3c

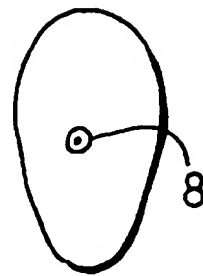


FIG. 3d

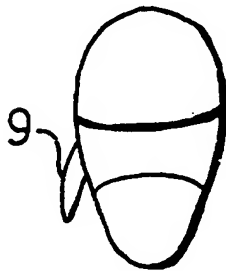


FIG. 3e



FIG. 5a

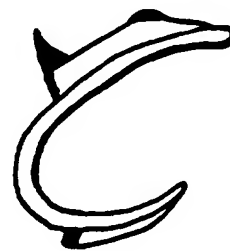


FIG. 5b

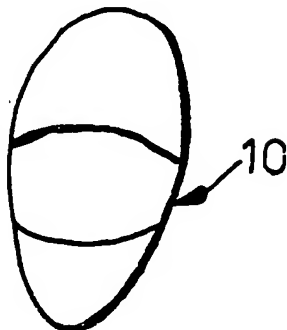


FIG. 4a

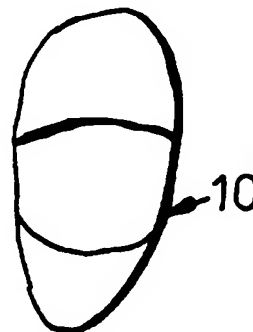


FIG. 4b



FIG. 6

DESCRIPTION.

Micromits.

This invention relates to the hygienic use of and protection of your fingers and thumb when in use, along with the types of production, fabrics, storage and uses of this product.
This item will most commonly be used in the areas of food preparation and food dispensment whether it be domestic or commercial.

Use with hot/cold items.

The design of this mit permits you to put 3 or 4 fingers into the large pocket, and your thumb into the small pocket. Then you can pick up items and afford your fingers and thumb protection from hot or cold items such as plates, dishes, jugs, pans ect.

Hygiene.

Not only does the user of these mits get protection for there fingers and thumb, the recipiant of the item being carried receives it hygienicly from the person serving the item.

Design.

The unique design of the mit is such that it offers the user protection along with flexibility to gain access not only to such appliances such as ovens and hobs but also to more small or awkward appliances like microwave ovens, the carrying of large or small items is done with ease as your thumb has its own independent pocket to allow natural attonamy. The mits are also ambidextrous.

Usable Materials.

These mits can be made out of any number of materials, whether they are being used in a domestic or commercial environment, or whether they are for use as a disposable item for hygiene or heat protection. These materials can be :- Cloth / fabrics(quilted or not, in part or full), polythene or paper.

Storage.

The design of the mit allows for numerous ways to store, carry or attach the mit when not in use. They include :- Inserting a magnet, use of velcro^{or other}, fabric loop, press stud. These can be applied onto or into most areas of the mit, a selection of designs are attached, but not limited to the sample positions.

Production / Manufacture.

The production / manufacture of the mit depends on the material being used. Examples are as follows but not limited to the samples. Cloth / fabric :- Quilting company, fabric sewing company. Polythene :- Polythene heat stamp / welding manufacturers.
Paper :- Paper embossing manufacturers.

Usage.

The mits can be used for numerous things and are not limited to one fabric one use, they offer interchangeable uses. I.E. Cloth / fabric :- Use in domestic and commercial kitchens, carrying of hot crockery. Polythene / Paper :- Use in food shops, hospitals, kitchens, rest rooms, restaurants, hotels, petrol stations, areas were people have to offer hygiene protection to themselves and / or their customer. Again these are examples of the use of the mit but not limited to this list.

CLAIMS.**Micromits.**

This mit has a unique design in that its shape, configuration, style and flexibility has not been seen before.

The design in general consists of a base, a large pocket and a small pocket. The various ways of manufacture offer different protection. In cloth / fabric form it can contain an inner fabric to offer added heat protection. It may also carry one of the storage facilities as outlined in the descriptions. In its polythene form it offers simple but effective hygiene protection. The paper form whether it is made from 1,2,3 or 4 ply offers moderate heat protection and hygiene protection.

The assembled mit has its base and two pockets, the large pocket at the top is for 3 or 4 fingers, the small pocket at the bottom is for the thumb. When you have the mit on you can touch your thumb and fingers as if it was not on, but it allows you to take hold of small and large items in a normal way without the feeling of being restricted by bulky items or holding an item in your hand in order to pick-up the required item. Please see drawings.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

1. A mit for applying to the thumb and fingers of one hand, comprising a base of flexible material having sides which diverge from a small end to a large end, and two pockets, one disposed at the small end to receive, in use, a thumb, and the other being disposed at the large end to receive, in use, a plurality of fingers of the same hand, the pockets having respective openings which face one another at spaced positions along the base with the pockets extending away from their openings and from one another, the portion of the base between the openings being adapted to permit folding of the base, in use, to facilitate gripping an item between the fingers and thumb whilst in the respective pockets, and wherein the outline of the base diverges symmetrically about the longitudinal centre line extending between the small end and the large end.
2. A mit as claimed in claim 1 when manufactured from fabric.
3. A mit as claimed in claim 2 and further comprising an inner fabric to offer added heat protection.
4. A mit as claimed in claim 1 when formed from polyethylene.
5. A mit as claimed in claim 1 when formed from paper.
6. A mit as claimed in claim 5 when comprised of 1 to 4 plies of paper.
7. A mit as claimed in anyone of the preceding claims and further comprising the provision of carrying/storage means.
8. A mit as claimed in claim 7 in which the carrying/storage means are selected from a magnet, touch and close fastening material, a press-stud, a loop or a buttonhole.

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9. A mit constructed and arranged substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings of figures 1 and 2 or as modified according to any of figures 3 to 6.



Application No: GB 9808269.6
Claims searched: 1

Examiner: Alex Littlejohn
Date of search: 5 June 1998

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.P): A3V

Int Cl (Ed.6): A41D 13/08, 13/10, 19/00, 19/01

Other: Online: WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB2226488A (Harris) see e.g. Fig 1	1
X	GB2114870A (Vale Mill) see e.g. Figs 1 and 2	1
X	GB1450683 (Cotton) see especially Fig 4 and page 1 lines 78-83	1
X	GB1088654 (Jones) see e.g. Fig 1	1
X	GB0427865 (Adams) see e.g. Fig 1	1
X	GB0292339 (Janvier) see e.g. Fig 1	1
X	US4938515 (Fazio) see e.g. Fig 3	1
X	US3982298 (Ota) see e.g. Figs 1 and 2	1

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.